Judge: Ex-dictator's son must face court

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HONOLULU, HAWAII — The son of former Philippine dictator Ferdinand Marcos has been ordered to appear in federal court during a goodwill visit here early next month.

The order, issued Wednesday, allows Ferdinand "Bong Bong" Marcos to travel to Hawaii despite contempt-of-court charges pending against him and his mother, Imelda Marcos. It bars him from speaking in public about pending litigation,

Judge Manuel Real ordered the younger Marcos to appear in court Feb. 7.

Real is overseeing the distribution of assets to thousands of Filipinos who won a $2 billion judgment against the Marcos estate in 1995, when a Honolulu jury found the late Philippine president responsible for executions, disappearances and torture during his 14-year reign under martial law. The initial award has grown to $3.7 billion with interest.

Imelda Marcos and her son were found in contempt of court in 1995 after Real ruled that they violated a court order freezing their assets and fined them $100,000 a day since then.

Ownership of bank and other funds has been disputed since they were discovered in 1986, soon after Ferdinand Marcos, who died in 1989, was forced from power and fled to Hawaii.